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APR. 10, A. M.

# THE Poultry and Egg SITUATION

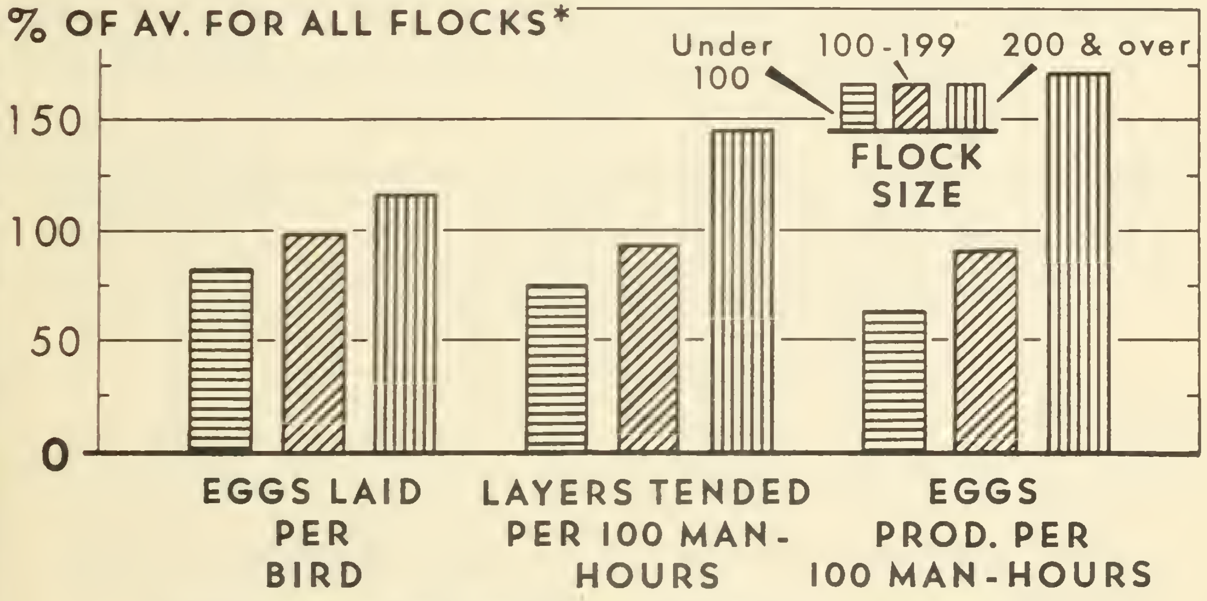
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PES-164 BAE MAR.-APR 1953

*Measures of*

## EGG PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY

*By Flock Size, Indiana, 1950*



ADAPTED FROM "LABOR AND POWER USED FOR FARM ENTERPRISES: INDIANA, 1950", USDA, BAE.
* IN STATEWIDE SAMPLE.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 49076-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Small laying flocks do not provide as efficient use of labor as do larger flocks. Further, because small side-line enterprises do not yield enough income to merit the specialized attention to feeding, disease control, and management which is justified by larger flocks, they often are inefficient in other factors as well. For these reasons, many midwestern poultry advisors are recommending that farmers have either only a small flock of layers to provide their families' needs for eggs and chicken, or else to have a flock of at least 400 to 500 layers which can be profitably managed on a commercial basis.

## THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

| Item | Unit | Month or date | Average 1942-51 | 1952 | 1953 | Month or date | Average 1942-51 | 1952 | 1953 | Comments on current situation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | EGGS | | | | | |
| Farm production ........ | Mil. doz. | Jan. | 370.7 | 446.8 | 453.4 | Feb. | 407.1 | 472.3 | 444.0 | 28-day month a factor in the January-February comparisons of production and disappearance |
| Average number of layers on farms ....... | Millions | Jan. | 398.3 | 384.4 | 375.9 | Feb. | 391.0 | 375.3 | 364.2 | |
| Monthly egg production per layer .............. | Eggs | Jan. | 11.2 | 14.0 | 14.5 | Feb. | 12.5 | 15.1 | 14.6 | |
| Apparent civilian per capita disappearance .. | Eggs | Jan. | 32.2 | 37.0 | 37.1 | Feb. | 31.5 | 35.6 | 34.0 | |
| Frozen egg production .. | Mil. lb. | Jan. | 10.4 | 17.9 | 18.1 | Feb. | 30.1 | 38.1 | 38.4 | Deterred by high prices for breaking stock |
| Dried egg production ... | Mil. lb. | Jan. | 8.0 | 1.1 | 0.4 | Feb. | 11.3 | 1.9 | 1.2 | |
| Price received by farmers .............. | Ct. per doz. | Feb. | 35.8 | 34.7 | 42.0 | Mar. | 35.4 | 34.0 | 44.7 | |
| Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity .......... | Percent | Feb. | 94 | 79 | 103 | Mar. | 98 | 77 | 109 | |
| Retail price (BAE) ...... | Ct. per doz. | Feb. | 49.4 | 53.0 | 1/ | Mar. | 49.6 | 51.5 | 1/ | |
| Egg-feed price ratio ... | Lb. feed | Feb. | 11.4 | 8.1 | 10.6 | Mar. | 11.0 | 8.0 | 11.3 | In the past, comparable increases over previous year have induced increases in chickens raised |
| Stocks: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shell .............. | Thous. cases | Feb. 1 | 304 | 238 | 120 | Mar. 1 | 722 | 942 | 248 | |
| Frozen .............. | Mil. lb. | Feb. 1 | 78.9 | 53.1 | 35.0 | Mar. 1 | 79.1 | 60.6 | 42.1 | |
| Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries .... | Millions | Jan. | 63.6 | 121.9 | 127.3 | Feb. | 125.8 | 190.4 | 172.9 | More recent, but unofficial, reports suggest current activity exceeds 1952 |
| Hens and pullets of laying age on farms ... | Millions | Feb. 1 | | 380.8 | 370.5 | Mar. 1 | --- | 369.7 | 357.9 | |
| Farm price of poultry ration .............. | Dol. per cwt | Feb. | 3.22 | 4.25 | 3.96 | Mar. | 3.29 | 4.24 | 3.97 | |
| | | | | | POULTRY | | | | | |
| Price received by farmers for chickens, live | | | | | | | | | | |
| Broilers .............. | Ct. per lb. | Feb. | 27.4 | 29.3 | 27.9 | Mar. | 29.2 | 28.0 | 28.2 | Price effects of larger beef supplies offset by less pork? |
| Farm chickens ........ | Ct. per lb. | Feb. | 24.8 | 24.8 | 24.0 | Mar. | 25.8 | 24.8 | 24.3 | |
| All chickens ......... | Ct. per lb. | Feb. | 26.1 | 27.7 | 26.6 | Mar. | 27.5 | 27.1 | 27.5 | |
| Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity. | Percent | Feb. | 106 | 90 | 86 | Mar. | 110 | 81 | 89 | |
| Retail price of chickens, dressed (BAE) ......... | Ct. per lb. | Feb. | 46.3 | 54.1 | 1/ | Mar. | 46.8 | 53.1 | 1/ | |
| Price received by farmers for turkeys, live .................. | Ct. per lb. | Feb. | 32.4 | 36.1 | 33.3 | Mar. | 32.1 | 34.5 | 33.6 | |
| Stocks: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poultry, excluding turkeys ............ | Mil. lb. | Feb. 1 | 162.1 | 183.6 | 118.2 | Mar. 1 | 141.5 | 163.9 | 100.0 | |
| Turkeys .............. | Mil. lb. | Feb. 1 | 88.1 | 116.4 | 142.9 | Mar. 1 | 80.8 | 106.5 | 117.0 | On basis of 35-city reports, March outmovement about equaled February |
| Chicken-feed price ratio ................ | Lb. feed | Feb. | 8.3 | 6.5 | 6.7 | Mar. | 8.6 | 6.4 | 6.9 | |
| Turkey-feed price ratio | Lb. feed | Feb. | 10.2 | 8.5 | 8.4 | Mar. | 9.9 | 8.1 | 8.5 | |
| Average weekly placement of chicks in 11 broiler areas ...... | Millions | Feb. | --- | 14.2 | 12.4 | Mar. | --- | 14.4 | 14.0 | At end of March, weekly placements were exceeding corresponding 1952 |

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1/ Latest available data are for December 1952, and were reported in the Jan.-Feb. 1953 Poultry and Egg Situation.

# THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board April 6, 1953

## SUMMARY

Egg production, near its season peak, is running below a year earlier, roughly in proportion to the 3 percent reduction in the number of layers on farms March 1. The reduced supplies, continued good demand for eggs for immediate consumption, and a small early-season accumulation of frozen egg, have held prices roughly 10 cents per dozen above a year earlier. After mid-year, both egg production and egg prices are likely to be much nearer to year-ago levels.

With the rise in egg prices and the reduction in the price of poultry ration, egg-feed price ratios in January, February, and March were 19, 31, and 41 percent higher than in the same months of 1952. In past hatching seasons, such increases in the egg-feed price ratio have been followed by some increase in the number of chickens raised for laying flock replacement,

Turkey hatchings through March were reduced from a year earlier. However, the sharp cuts in early-season operations do not necessarily indicate similar cuts for the year as a whole. A Turkey Industry Conference held in Washington on March 5 and 6 recommended a 12 to 15 percent cut from 1952 in the production of heavy turkeys.

## REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

### Egg Prices to Mid-Summer to Continue Higher than in 1952

Egg prices through March this year continued sharply higher than during the same period in 1952, with the prospect that they will continue so through the first half of this year. In the summer and fall, however, the seasonal price rise is likely to be less pronounced than in 1952, and prices probably will be much closer to a year earlier than they have been so far.

Main reasons for the relatively high current level of egg prices are (a) the reduction in egg production from last year, (b) the small amount stored so far relative to the "requirements" for frozen and stored shell eggs, and (c) the continued high level of demand.

Table 1.- Eggs: Monthly commercial supply from farm production, and average prices, January 1951 to date 1/

| Year and month | Egg production on farms | Net commercial cold storage movements, shell and frozen equivalent: Out | Net commercial cold storage movements, shell and frozen equivalent: In | Eggs for hatching | Government purchases for surplus removal 2/ | Effective supply in commercial channels (including U.S. Armed Forces) | U.S. average farm price, per dozen | U. S. average retail price, (BAE) per dozen |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 cases | 1,000 cases | 1,000 cases | 1,000 cases | 1,000 cases | 1,000 cases | Cents | Cents |
| 1951 | | | | | | | | |
| Jan. | 14,083 | 381 | | 672 | | 13,792 | 42.6 | 61.4 |
| Feb. | 14,369 | | 108 | 1,127 | | 13,134 | 41.4 | 57.8 |
| Mar. | 17,100 | | 892 | 1,322 | | 14,886 | 43.7 | 63.7 |
| Apr. | 16,778 | | 1,810 | 1,129 | | 13,839 | 43.2 | 62.1 |
| May | 16,336 | | 2,371 | 595 | | 13,370 | 45.2 | 64.5 |
| June | 14,056 | | 1,007 | 437 | | 12,612 | 44.7 | 65.5 |
| July | 12,619 | 105 | | 371 | | 12,353 | 46.6 | 67.3 |
| Aug. | 11,422 | 938 | | 320 | | 12,040 | 49.6 | 71.9 |
| Sept. | 10,953 | 1,214 | | 346 | | 11,821 | 55.0 | 75.9 |
| Oct. | 11,778 | 1,232 | | 348 | | 12,662 | 55.6 | 78.8 |
| Nov. | 12,069 | 1,015 | | 363 | | 12,721 | 56.5 | 78.0 |
| Dec. | 13,314 | 760 | | 508 | | 13,566 | 51.1 | 69.6 |
| 1952 | | | | | | | | |
| Jan. | 15,019 | 210 | | 793 | | 14,436 | 40.5 | 58.8 |
| Feb. | 15,875 | | 886 | 1,219 | | 13,770 | 34.7 | 53.0 |
| Mar. | 17,892 | | 1,148 | 1,208 | | 15,536 | 34.0 | 51.5 |
| Apr. | 17,200 | | 1,238 | 900 | | 15,062 | 35.2 | 53.0 |
| May | 16,619 | | 1,797 | 486 | | 14,336 | 34.2 | 52.2 |
| June | 13,978 | | 791 | 354 | | 12,833 | 35.7 | 54.0 |
| July | 12,397 | 659 | | 327 | | 12,729 | 43.3 | 66.3 |
| Aug. | 11,542 | 996 | | 333 | | 12,205 | 48.2 | 68.8 |
| Sept. | 11,411 | 934 | | 360 | 125 | 11,860 | 48.7 | 69.5 |
| Oct. | 12,228 | 1,474 | | 366 | 83 | 13,253 | 50.3 | 74.2 |
| Nov. | 12,528 | 1,152 | | 395 | 17 | 13,268 | 51.9 | 72.3 |
| Dec. | 14,064 | 810 | | 530 | 1 | 14,343 | 46.6 | 64.2 |
| 1953 | | | | | | | | |
| Jan. | 15,114 | 429 | | 720 | | 14,823 | 45.8 | |
| Feb. | 14,800 | | 293 | 3/1,170 | | 13,337 | 42.0 | |
| Mar. | | | | | | | 44.7 | |

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1/ Corresponding data for prior months are given in The Poultry and Egg Situation, June 1951, table 5, page 12 and Mar.-Apr. 1952, table 1, page 5.

2/ Surplus removal purchases for 1952 entered according to month of scheduled delivery.

3/ Estimated on basis of eggs in incubators March 1.

## Egg Production Below Last Year

Egg production on farms for the next few months will continue below last year, in line with the 3 percent reduction from last year in the number of layers on hand March 1. Almost until mid-year, changes from last year in the rate of lay per bird are unlikely to be large enough to substantially affect the total egg output, and supplies will be below the 1952 level.

Although egg supplies are smaller than in 1952, they are near the high point of this year, and prices of fresh eggs for the 4 or 5 months after June are virtually certain to be higher than in the months preceding. These expectations are based on normal seasonal developments that have occurred in every past year.

Table 2.- Layers on farms March 1 as a percentage of potential layers on farms January 1, by regions, 1949-53

| Region | March 1 layers as a percentage of January 1 potential layers | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| N. Atlantic | 88 | 86 | 88 | 87 | 88 |
| E. N. Central | 90 | 90 | 91 | 89 | 89 |
| W. N. Central | 92 | 90 | 91 | 92 | 92 |
| S. Atlantic | 84 | 85 | 84 | 84 | 84 |
| S. Central | 84 | 84 | 87 | 86 | 84 |
| Western | 91 | 87 | 87 | 86 | 87 |
| United States | 89 | 87 | 89 | 88 | 88 |

## Shell Eggs in Storage Fewer than Last Year

Storage stocks of shell eggs this year are likely to be considerably below the July 1, 1952, holdings of 3.4 million cases. This prospect is based mainly on the continuing trend toward a seasonal leveling-out of egg production on farms, and on the current level of egg prices, which in March, at 44.7 cents (U. S. average farm price) was more than 10 cents per dozen higher than a year earlier. With production of fresh eggs in the fall likely to be closer to the level of a year ago than this spring, the seasonal price rise is expected to be smaller this year than last. Consequently, the opportunities for profit from shell egg storage will be narrowed.

Although a smaller seasonal egg price rise than last year is in prospect, a nearly average relationship has existed in the last month or two between fresh egg prices and egg futures contracts in Chicago. With both September and October contracts holding near 51 and 50 cents per dozen respectively in late March, the futures were on most days from 3 to 5 cents above the lowest-quoted packs of Extras in the spot markets. The course of egg future prices for the 1952 deliveries is shown in table 4.

Table 3.- Shell and frozen eggs in refrigerated storage, March 1953, with comparisons

| Date | Shell eggs | | | Frozen eggs | | | Shell and frozen combined 1/ | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 |
| | Thous. cases | Thous. cases | Thous. cases | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Thous. cases | Thous. cases | Thous cases |
| | | | | Total U. S. stocks | | | | | |
| January 1 | 34 | 141 | 153 | 47 | 67 | 50 | 1,263 | 1,886 | 1,456 |
| February 1 | 75 | 238 | 120 | 31 | 53 | 35 | 884 | 1,616 | 1,029 |
| March 1 | 159 | 942 | 248 | 33 | 61 | 42 | 1,009 | 2,515 | 1,342 |
| April 1 | 309 | 1,596 | | 62 | 84 | | 1,927 | 3,785 | |
| May 1 | 973 | 2,184 | | 109 | 111 | | 3,811 | 5,072 | |
| June 1 | 2,083 | 3,184 | | 163 | 146 | | 6,308 | 6,973 | |
| July 1 | 2,427 | 3,357 | | 190 | 166 | | 7,362 | 7,680 | |
| August 1 | 2,270 | 2,728 | | 191 | 163 | | 7,226 | 6,971 | |
| September 1 | 1,615 | 2,169 | | 176 | 144 | | 6,194 | 5,918 | |
| October 1 | 958 | 1,709 | | 151 | 124 | | 4,888 | 4,921 | |
| November 1 | 527 | 1,000 | | 122 | 95 | | 3,685 | 3,476 | |
| December 1 | 230 | 393 | | 95 | 72 | | 2,701 | 2,275 | |
| | | | | Stocks in 35 principal cities 2/ | | | | | |
| March 21 | 135 | 1,019 | 176 | 25 | 44 | 32 | 796 | 2,161 | 999 |
| March 28 | 175 | 1,107 | 201 | 30 | 48 | 34 | 948 | 2,352 | 1,079 |
| April 4 | 249 | 1,189 | 222 | 36 | 51 | 38 | 1,190 | 2,518 | 1,201 |
| April 11 | 337 | 1,243 | | 41 | 56 | | 1,413 | 2,694 | |

1/ Frozen egg converted at 38.5 pounds, equivalent to 1 case.
2/ Given dates are for 1953; for other years, corresponding Saturdays.

## Production of Liquid and Frozen Egg Lags

Production and storage of liquid, frozen, and dried egg are influenced by somewhat different factors than those affecting storage of shell eggs. Net costs of storage for frozen egg are considerably lower than for shell eggs. This is partly because normally there is no grade loss in the holding of frozen egg as there is for shell. In the winter, spring-packed frozen egg may even command a premium over the currently-produced commodity. As a result, storage costs for frozen egg are offset by a much smaller seasonal price rise than that which is necessary to justify the storage of shell eggs.

Ordinarily, production of the processed egg products during each spring's flush season is large enough so that the price during the out-of-storage season is usually related to spring-time production cost plus accumulated storage charges. Thus frozen egg prices during the late summer and fall do not reflect current production costs to any great extent. The price for stored shell eggs, on the other hand, usually is based on the current price for fresh eggs minus a discount to offset the real or presumed quality changes that occurred during storage.

The above situation applies to frozen egg prices when supplies are liberal, as is usually the case. But when supplies are so short as to drive prices above accustomed levels, it is more difficult to foresee the extent to which the price might rise.

The processed eggs which are used in pastries, noodles, salad dressings, and the dry cake mixes which have recently become popular, are among the most expensive ingredients in those end-products. Manufacturers have probably explored most of the opportunities for economies in the use of eggs in those products, and they can reduce the amount of eggs used only by reducing the quantity or quality of the output. However, eggs make up only a relatively small proportion of the total retail cost of these end-products. A rise in egg prices, therefore, has relatively little effect on the retail prices and thus on the quantity taken by consumers. For these reasons, the quantity of egg products demanded may not decline in proportion to a rise in price.

Table 4.- Egg futures contracts, Chicago Mercantile Exchange: Monthly highs, cents per dozen, 1952, and 1953 contracts to date

| Highest daily closing price (per dozen) during the month of: | Contract | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sept. 1952 | Oct. 1952 | Nov. 1952 | Dec. 1952 | Jan. 1953 | Sept. 1953 | Oct. 1953 |
| | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| 1951 | | | | | | | |
| October | 45.25 | | | | | | |
| November | 46.70 | 46.50 | | | | | |
| December | 46.25 | 46.25 | | | | | |
| 1952 | | | | | | | |
| January | 45.95 | 45.90 | | | | | |
| February | 43.90 | 44.15 | | | | | |
| March | 43.90 | 44.00 | | | | | |
| April | 43.65 | 43.80 | 43.85 | | | | |
| May | 43.50 | 43.95 | 44.10 | | | | |
| June | 45.45 | 46.25 | 46.85 | | | | |
| July | 50.05 | 50.40 | 50.65 | 49.00 | | | |
| August | 49.45 | 50.30 | 50.70 | 49.00 | | | |
| September | 45.95 | 47.00 | 47.85 | 46.00 | | | |
| October | | 43.90 | 44.35 | 44.20 | 39.75 | 45.05 | |
| November | | | 44.65 | 45.05 | 42.05B | 44.50 | |
| December | | | | 47.55 | 43.00 | 45.75 | 45.75 |
| 1953 | | | | | | | |
| January | | | | | 46.20 | 47.55 | 47.60 |
| February | | | | | | 49.65 | 49.65 |
| March | | | | | | 52.75 | 51.75 |

An individual supplier of processed egg, of course, may find his sales fluctuating considerably with changes in prices. For the products of the egg-breaking industry as a whole, however, the quantity of processed egg products sold is not likely to be sharply reduced if prices increase from accustomed levels.

Unless production (breaking) is up sharply from rates earlier in the season, and continues at an accelerated rate until mid-year, the season peak storage stocks will be lower than in 1952. With users unlikely to reduce their takings proportionately, stocks will be inadequate and considerable out-of-season egg breaking is likely. In that case, the cost of replacement from out-of-season production will be a strong influence on prices for frozen egg. This indicates that prices in the next 6 or 8 months may rise by considerably more than accumulated storage charges, if springtime accumulations of frozen (and dried) egg in storage do not at least equal those of a year ago.

Table 5.- January 1 stocks of frozen egg, and liquid egg production, 1951 to date

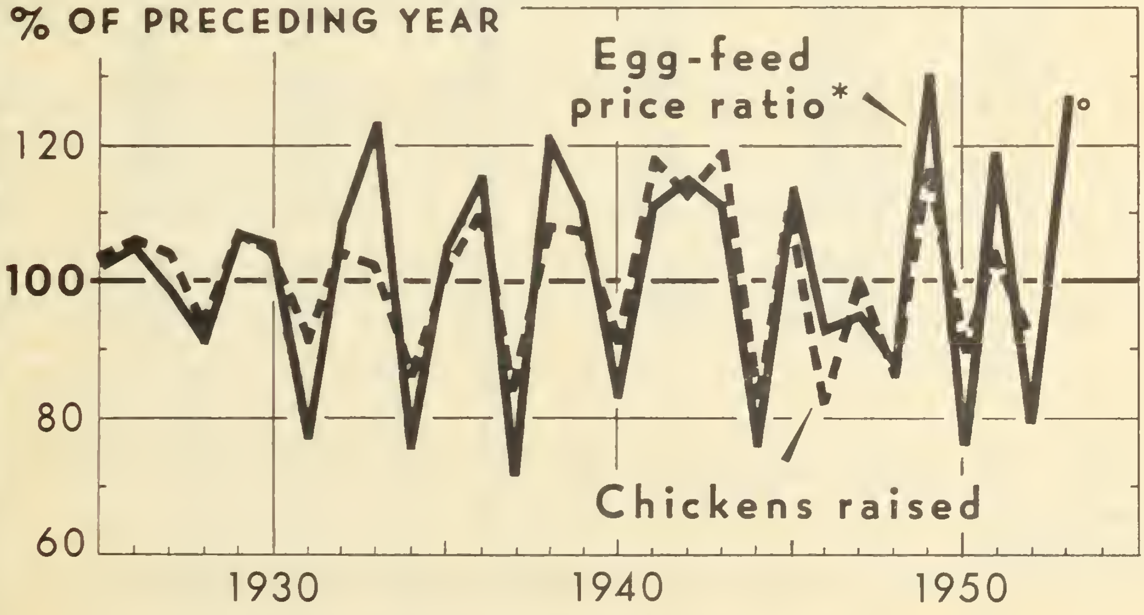
| Item | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. |
| January 1 stocks of frozen egg | 47 | 67 | 50 |
| Production of liquid egg | | | |
| January | 23 | 23 | 21 |
| February | 35 | 48 | 45 |
| March | 77 | 63 | |
| April | 84 | 64 | |
| May | 87 | 71 | |
| June | 50 | 48 | |
| July | 23 | 22 | |
| August-December total | 31 | 43 | |
| Annual total | 409 | 382 | |

## Economic Factors Suggest Change from January Intentions for Fewer Chickens

The hatchery report released March 16 did not indicate a substantial departure from farmers' February intentions to raise 4 percent fewer chickens than in 1952 for laying flock replacement. However, if the February intentions are carried through this would be the first time since 1925, when records first became available, that an increase in the egg-feed price ratio failed to induce an increase in the number of chickens raised.

Egg-feed price ratios in January, February, and March were 19, 31, and 41 percent respectively above a year earlier. The ratios in the remaining months of the hatching season are likely to show similar gains over a year earlier. As a result, farmers are likely to reconsider their plans to reduce chick numbers. The usual close relationship between the weighted springtime egg-feed price ratio and the number of chickens raised is illustrated below.

EGG-FEED PRICE RATIO AND CHICKENS RAISED



* WEIGHTED 7-MONTH AVERAGE

° BASED ON INDICATIONS THROUGH MARCH

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Table 6.- Egg-feed price ratio, chickens raised, and pullets on farms, January 1, United States, 1925 to date

| Year | Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average*) | Chickens raised | Pullets on farms January 1 following | Percentage of preceding year | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Intentions to raise chickens | Egg-feed price ratio* | Chickens raised | Pullets on farms January 1 following |
| | Pounds | Millions | Millions | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| 1925 | 12.9 | 679 | | | 102 | 103 | |
| 1926 | 13.5 | 718 | | | 105 | 106 | |
| 1927 | 13.4 | 750 | | | 99 | 104 | |
| 1928 | 12.2 | 700 | | | 91 | 93 | |
| 1929 | 13.1 | 751 | | | 107 | 107 | |
| 1930 | 13.8 | 777 | 244 | | 105 | 104 | |
| 1931 | 10.6 | 709 | 230 | | 77 | 91 | 94 |
| 1932 | 11.6 | 736 | 237 | | 109 | 104 | 103 |
| 1933 | 14.3 | 750 | 238 | | 123 | 102 | 100 |
| 1934 | 10.9 | 644 | 212 | | 76 | 86 | 89 |
| 1935 | 11.4 | 658 | 226 | | 105 | 102 | 107 |
| 1936 | 13.1 | 715 | 249 | | 115 | 109 | 110 |
| 1937 | 9.4 | 601 | 215 | | 72 | 84 | 86 |
| 1938 | 11.4 | 651 | 242 | | 121 | 108 | 113 |
| 1939 | 12.6 | 697 | 254 | | 111 | 107 | 105 |
| 1940 | 10.4 | 634 | 240 | 96 | 83 | 91 | 94 |
| 1941 | 11.5 | 745 | 278 | 109 | 111 | 118 | 116 |
| 1942 | 13.2 | 844 | 319 | 112 | 115 | 113 | 115 |
| 1943 | 14.7 | 1,001 | 350 | 116 | 111 | 119 | 110 |
| 1944 | 11.2 | 832 | 301 | 83 | 76 | 83 | 86 |
| 1945 | 12.8 | 1/890 | 322 | 96 | 114 | 107 | 107 |
| 1946 | 11.9 | 1/738 | 281 | 86 | 93 | 83 | 87 |
| 1947 | 11.3 | 1/719 | 278 | 94 | 95 | 97 | 99 |
| 1948 | 9.8 | 1/615 | 258 | 80 | 87 | 86 | 93 |
| 1949 | 12.7 | 1/705 | 287 | 107 | 130 | 115 | 111 |
| 1950 | 9.6 | 1/635 | 264 | 88 | 76 | 90 | 92 |
| 1951 | 11.4 | 1/663 | 276 | 96 | 119 | 104 | 105 |
| 1952 | 9.0(9.3) | 2/617 | 255 | 90 | 79 | 93 | 92 |
| 1953 | 3/(11.2) | | | 96 | | | |

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ For 1953, November through March; comparable 1952 in parentheses.

* Weights are as follows: Preceding November, 1; preceding December, 2; January, 3; February, 4; March, 5; April, 3; May, 1.

Past experience has been that the percentage change from one year to the next in chickens raised has averaged about half the percentage change in the weighted egg-feed price ratio. This year the change in the ratio is so extreme that a fully corresponding change in the number of chickens raised is unlikely. However, if the increase were to be only one-third or half of that ordinarily expected to follow egg-feed ratios as favorable as those of recent months, the resulting number of pullets available for egg production in the spring of 1954 would produce considerably more eggs than were available this spring.

Since other factors besides supply influence egg prices, it is too early to estimate what egg prices might be a year from now. However, springtime prices have in the past been sensitive to small changes in supply, on account of the delicate balance usually existing at that season when consumer channels are liberally supplied, and the storage demand responds to small price changes.

The report of hatchery production for February showed a 9 percent decline in output from February 1952. About a third of this decline is accounted for by the shorter month this year than in 1952, a leap year, The remaining 5 or 6 percent of this difference between 1952 and 1953 chick production may not have extended to chick sales, since in February 1952 there were reported to have been many unsold chicks which hatcherymen had to destroy. Demand in February 1953 was reported to be good.

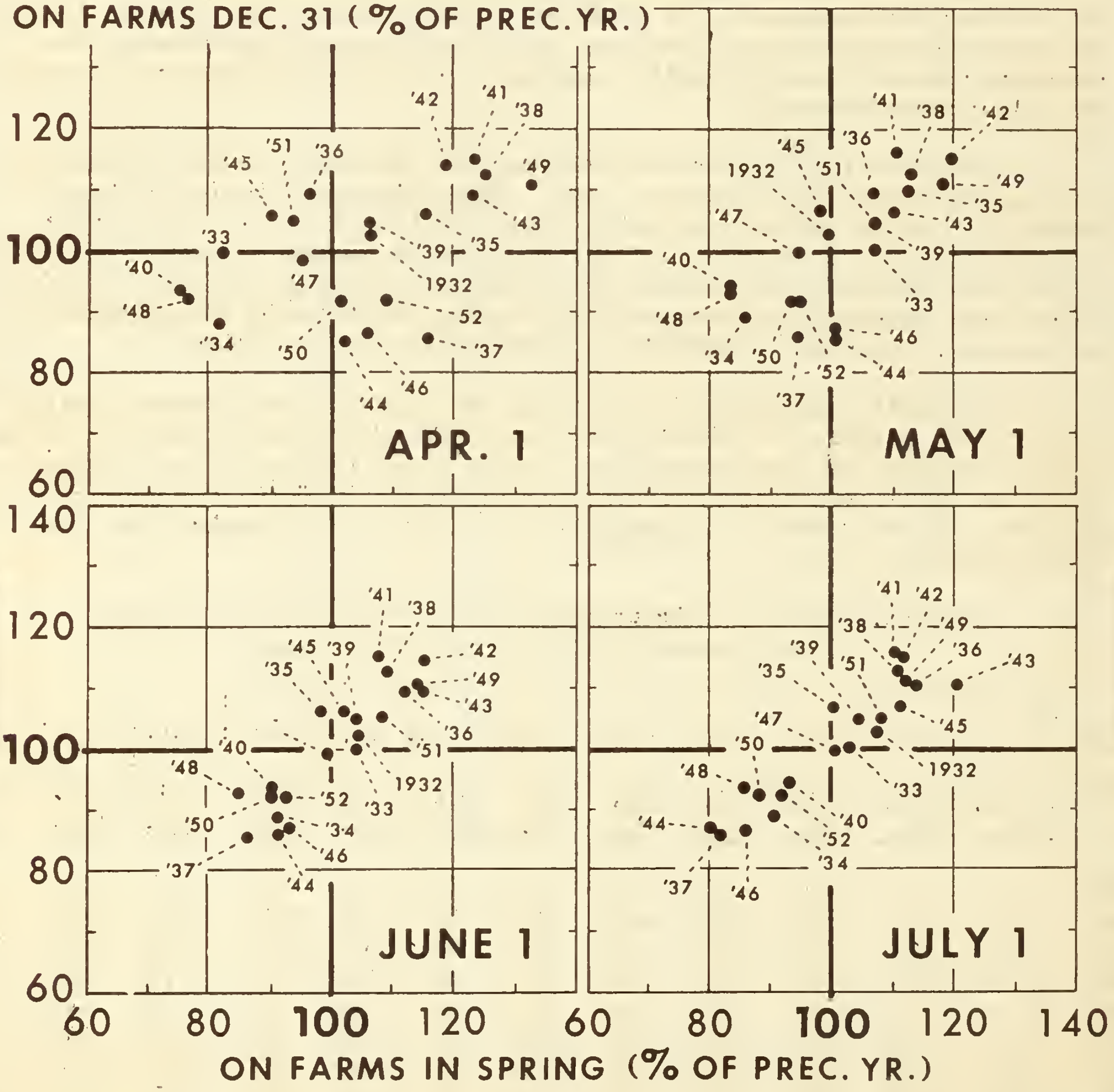
The next indication of the trend in numbers of replacement chicks will be the estimate of chicks and young chickens on farms April 1, in the April 10 report of Crop Production. Table 7 and the accompanying chart show the extent to which this report, and others later in the season, indicate of the number of laying pullets finally to be housed from the year's hatch.

Table 6a.- Turkeys: First-of-month holdings in refrigerated warehouses, total U. S., 1945 to date

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. | Mil. lbs. |
| 1945 | 73 | 74 | 63 | 46 | 33 | 29 | 27 | 21 | 18 | 27 | 43 | 78 |
| 1946 | 108 | 135 | 135 | 124 | 107 | 97 | 79 | 63 | 55 | 45 | 84 | 117 |
| 1947 | 128 | 140 | 126 | 109 | 95 | 86 | 72 | 59 | 45 | 39 | 65 | 86 |
| 1948 | 83 | 83 | 70 | 55 | 41 | 33 | 27 | 19 | 13 | 15 | 34 | 47 |
| 1949 | 51 | 55 | 51 | 44 | 36 | 33 | 29 | 21 | 21 | 35 | 76 | 107 |
| 1950 | 127 | 138 | 129 | 113 | 93 | 77 | 64 | 47 | 37 | 43 | 77 | 108 |
| 1951 | 110 | 117 | 101 | 80 | 60 | 48 | 39 | 30 | 25 | 42 | 83 | 109 |
| 1952 | 107 | 116 | 107 | 93 | 72 | 63 | 56 | 46 | 44 | 71 | 142 | 158 |
| 1953 | 147 | 143 | 117 | | | | | | | | | |

# YOUNG CHICKENS ON FARMS IN THE SPRING, AND NUMBERS OF PULLETS FOR LAYING PURPOSES AT END OF YEAR, 1932-52

*Percentages of Preceding Year*



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 48588-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

## Downward Adjustment Desirable for Size of 1953 Turkey Crop

Price trends since the new year have been different for small turkeys and large ones. Beltsville Small Whites, typical of the small turkeys, have sold at prices well above the 1952 average. In the East, the price outlook for producers of small turkeys for the next few months is good, since egg settings and hatchings have been sharply reduced in the Shenandoah Valley, a principal producing area. Growers' January intentions were to grow 23 percent fewer birds of this type in 1953 than in 1952.

Current prices for toms of the heavy breeds are slightly below the levels of early January. Until after mid-year, major supplies of these birds will come from storage stocks, rather than from current slaughter as is the case for small birds. Although smaller than 4 months ago, these stocks are quite large. Growers' January intentions were to cut the 1953 output of this class of turkey by only 3 percent. The reduction would be only half as large as the quantity bought by the Department of Agriculture from the 1952 crop for surplus removal.

Table 7.- Springtime numbers of young chickens on farms and numbers of pullets for laying purposes at end of year, 1931 to date

| Year | Chicks and young chickens on farms | | | | | | | | Pullets on farms December 31 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Numbers, first of month | | | | As a percentage of preceding year | | | | | |
| | April | May | June | July | April | May | June | July | Number | Percentage of preceding year |
| | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Mil. | Pct. |
| 1931 | 140 | 333 | 502 | 516 | | | | | 230 | |
| 1932 | 149 | 330 | 520 | 550 | 106 | 99 | 104 | 107 | 237 | 103 |
| 1933 | 122 | 350 | 542 | 559 | 82 | 106 | 104 | 102 | 238 | 100 |
| 1934 | 99 | 298 | 491 | 503 | 81 | 85 | 91 | 90 | 212 | 89 |
| 1935 | 114 | 325 | 481 | 504 | 115 | 109 | 98 | 100 | 226 | 107 |
| 1936 | 110 | 345 | 541 | 570 | 96 | 106 | 112 | 113 | 249 | 110 |
| 1937 | 126 | 324 | 465 | 464 | 115 | 94 | 86 | 81 | 215 | 86 |
| 1938 | 158 | 364 | 509 | 513 | 125 | 112 | 109 | 111 | 242 | 113 |
| 1939 | 167 | 387 | 531 | 534 | 106 | 106 | 104 | 104 | 254 | 105 |
| 1940 | 126 | 323 | 477 | 499 | 75 | 83 | 90 | 93 | 240 | 94 |
| 1941 | 155 | 354 | 513 | 550 | 123 | 110 | 108 | 110 | 278 | 116 |
| 1942 | 185 | 420 | 589 | 611 | 119 | 119 | 115 | 111 | 319 | 115 |
| 1943 | 227 | 472 | 679 | 732 | 123 | 112 | 115 | 120 | 350 | 110 |
| 1944 | 231 | 471 | 616 | 595 | 102 | 100 | 91 | 81 | 301 | 86 |
| 1945 | 206 | 460 | 625 | 660 | 89 | 98 | 101 | 111 | 322 | 107 |
| 1946 | 218 | 460 | 575 | 559 | 106 | 100 | 92 | 85 | 281 | 87 |
| 1947 | 206 | 429 | 563 | 557 | 94 | 93 | 98 | 100 | 278 | 99 |
| 1948 | 155 | 353 | 476 | 479 | 75 | 82 | 85 | 86 | 258 | 93 |
| 1949 | 203 | 409 | 537 | 533 | 131 | 116 | 113 | 111 | 287 | 111 |
| 1950 | 216 | 384 | 483 | 470 | 101 | 94 | 90 | 88 | 264 | 92 |
| 1951 | 201 | 406 | 523 | 508 | 93 | 106 | 108 | 108 | 276 | 105 |
| 1952 | 219 | 384 | 489 | 467 | 109 | 95 | 93 | 92 | 255 | 92 |

On December 1, 1952, holdings of frozen turkey were record large (table 6a), even after allowing for the fact that they included a considerable number of birds intended for later delivery to the Department of Agriculture. Since that date they have declined steadily, contrary to the usual seasonal increase which in previous years had brought stocks to the season peak about February 1. On March 1, 1953, the total holdings were 117 million pounds; during the month they declined further. By April 1 turkeys owned by USDA or intended for delivery to USDA were no longer a significant part of the storage holdings.

The amount of the month-to-month decline in turkey storage holdings this spring is significant because if large holdings remain when substantial marketings begin from the 1953 crop, they will be a price-depressing influence. An Advisory Committee which met in Washington on March 5 and 6 recommended that the 1953 production of heavy turkeys be reduced 12 to 15 percent from the record-high levels of 1952. 1/

The extent of the likely downward trend in the 1953 production of large turkeys is not yet clear. The monthly report of hatchery production shows the percentage change in operations from last year for a matched sample of hatcheries. These data, with 1952 comparisons, are:

| Year and month to which report applies | Percentage change from a year earlier | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Poult output | | Turkey eggs in incubators at beginning of given month | Turkeys raised for the year |
| | In previous month | Cumulative for season | | |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| 1953 | | | | |
| March | -34 | | -19 | |
| 1952 | | | | 13 |
| March | 58 | | 30 | |
| April | 27 | 34 | 40 | |
| May | 12 | 22 | 10 | |
| June | 6 | 16 | - 2 | |
| July | 0 | 13 | 12 | |
| 1951 | | | | 19 |
| March | 10 | | 16 | |
| April | 5 | 6 | 0 | |
| May | 6 | 6 | 16 | |
| June | 7 | 6 | 48 | |
| July | 32 | 10 | 38 | |

The table indicates that early-season hatchery output data are an inadequate basis for predicting full-season changes in turkey output. The table is based on reports which do not segregate poults of the large and small breeds.

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1/ USDA press release 553, March 6, 1953.

In order to give the turkey industry a better basis for judging its position, and to provide information early enough for the industry to make appropriate adjustments, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is making a special turkey survey this spring. The survey, covering 13 States, will report (a) 1953 poult production, cumulative through April, as a percentage of corresponding 1952, (b) poult production in the last week of April 1953 as a percentage of corresponding 1952, and (c) eggs in incubators May 1. Since the incubation period for turkeys is 28 days, a May 1 report on numbers of eggs in incubators will indicate production through late May.

The data are to be separate for light breed turkeys and heavy-breed turkeys. The 13 States, chosen as representative of the heavy-producing sections in various regions of the country, are New York, Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Texas, California, Oregon, and Washington.

Table 8.- Turkeys: Prices per pound for vaious types, January 1953 to date

| Item | Date 1/ | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Jan. 2 | Jan. 15 | Feb. 2 | Feb. 16 | Mar. 2 | Mar. 16 | Apr. 1 |
| | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| U. S. average received by farmers at mid-month (live) | | 33.6 | | 33.3 | | 33.6 | |
| Small turkeys: | | | | | | | |
| Shenandoah Valley, Va. and W. Va., at farm, live | 42 | 42 | 40½ | 41½-42 | 42-43 | 42-43 | |
| San Joaquin Valley, Calif., at ranch, live | 33-34 | 34½ | --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| New York City, | | | | | | | |
| New York dressed 2/ | 53½-54 | 53-54 | 52½-53 | 53½-54 | 55½-56 | 54½-55 | 51-52 |
| Eviscerated 3/ | 63-65 | 64-65 | 64-66 | 64-67 | 64-67 | 64-67 | 64-68 |
| Large turkeys-toms | | | | | | | |
| San Joaquin Valley, Calif., at ranch, live | 28½-29½ | 28½-30 | --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| New York City, | | | | | | | |
| New York dressed | | | | | | | |
| under 20 pounds | 40½-41½ | 40½-41 | 40½-41½ | 40½-41½ | 40½-41 | 40½-41 | 40½-41 |
| 26 pounds and up | 43-44 | 44½-45 | 45½-46 | 45½-46 | 44½-45½ | 43½-44½ | 43-44 |
| Eviscerated | | | | | | | |
| under 20 pounds | 53-56 | 52-54 | 52-54 | 52-54 | 51-53 | 50-53 | 50-52 |
| 24 pounds and up | 53-55 | 53-56 | 55-56½ | 54-56½ | 53-55 | 53-55 | 52-55 |

1/ Or first available quotation thereafter. 2/ Ice packed. 3/ Eviscerated (ready-to cook).

## Late April Broilers to Compete with Byproduct Cockerels

Reported February and March placements of broilers in specialized areas were short of the records set in those months in 1952, and the present outlook does not suggest a repetition of the marketing gluts which occurred last May. However, recent settings of eggs in incubators in broiler areas have been rising, and early April placements are likely to be higher than in 1952.

Broiler chicks placed in early April will be ready for marketing before most byproduct cockerels reared with pullet replacements are sold. But later broiler placements will have to sell in competition with byproduct cockerels.

Table 9.- Broilers and fryers: f.o.b. farm prices, per pound, live, in selected areas, selected dates, November 14, 1952 to date

| Area | Weight or class | 1952 |  | 1953 |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  | Nov. 14 | Dec. 15 | Jan. 15 | Feb. 16 | Mar. 2 | Mar. 16 | Apr. 1 |
|  |  | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| Del-Mar-Va | Under 3 lbs. | 33½-35 | 27¼-28 | 28 | 27½-28 | 27-27½ | 26-26½ | 26½-27 |
| Boston area | 3½-4½ lbs. | 31-35 | 25-28 | 25-27 | 24-30 | 25-27 | 23-24 | 24-26 |
| Shenandoah Valley | Broilers and fryers | 33-34 | 28 | 26-27 | 27 | 27 | 26-27 | 26½-28½ |
| North Georgia | Under 3½ lbs. | 30-31½ | 26½-29 | 26-28 | 26-27 | 27-28 | 27 | 27½-28½ |
| Arkansas | All weights | 32 | 30 | 26 | 26 | 25-26 | 27-28 | 27-28 |
| Texas | Broilers or fryers | 31-32 | 31-32 | 26-27 | 26 | 26-28 | 29-30 | 28-29 |
| San Joaquin Valley | Fryers | 29-31 | 28-29 | 31-33 | 28-30 | 28-30 | 29-31 | 29-30 |
| Iowa 1/ | 2½ lbs. and up | 30-31 | 27-28 | 26-28 | 26 | 27 | 27-28 | 28 |
| U.S. average farm price 2/ |  | 31.3 | 29.6 | 28.2 | 27.9 |  | 28.2 |  |
|  |  | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. |
| Average weekly chick placements 3/ |  | 9.0 | 9.6 | 10.8 | 11.6 | 11.7 | 12.0 | 12.1 |

1/ Friday of given week.
2/ At mid-month.
3/ 9-12 weeks previous in 11 specialized areas.

## Price Control Regulations End

Egg price controls administered by the Office of Price Stabilization were terminated on February 12, 1953. Since egg prices were below parity levels except during months when egg prices were seasonally lower than the base prices of the freeze period (December 19, 1950-January 25, 1951), the controls did not directly bear upon farmers' egg prices.

Controls on dressed chickens and turkeys were terminated on the same day. During the control period, the price of chickens had never risen above 93 percent of parity. Turkeys were 98 percent of parity in mid-December 1951, but prices declined after Christmas and no dollars-and-cents price order was issued.

The price of ducks, for which no parity equivalent is computed, was controlled by a separate order, independent of the General Ceiling Price Regulation. The duck order was #79, effective from November 9, 1951 to September 25, 1952.

Table 10.- Broilers: Monthly averages of weekly placements, specified reporting areas, January-March 1953 with comparisons

| Area | Average of weekly placements during month | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1952 | | | 1952-1953 | | | | | |
| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| | Thous. | Thous. | Thous. | Thous. | Thous. | Thous. | Thous. | Thous. | Thous. |
| E. Connecticut | 270 | 452 | 360 | 255 | 328 | 309 | 337 | 403 | 1/ 478 |
| Del-Mar-Va. | 2,881 | 3,671 | 3,162 | 2,551 | 2,786 | 3,280 | 3,296 | 2,812 | 3,072 |
| Shenandoah Valley | 751 | 956 | 1,023 | 654 | 859 | 867 | 815 | 872 | 1,013 |
| N.Car.-Cent-West | 874 | 984 | 1,023 | 626 | 814 | 845 | 970 | 1,008 | 1,070 |
| Georgia | 2,357 | 2,792 | 2,813 | 2,166 | 2,093 | 2,101 | 2,315 | 2,554 | 2,743 |
| Arkansas | 1,300 | 1,344 | 1,283 | 818 | 836 | 1,046 | 998 | 1,007 | 1,060 |
| Texas | 1,447 | 1,611 | 1,587 | 1,211 | 1,372 | 1,279 | 1,238 | 1,390 | 1,441 |
| Alabama | 477 | 554 | 569 | 460 | 519 | 529 | 513 | 586 | 698 |
| Mississippi | 621 | 741 | 842 | 593 | 658 | 632 | 709 | 780 | 846 |
| Florida | 213 | 229 | 224 | 212 | 226 | 237 | 222 | 236 | 228 |
| Indiana | 717 | 798 | 887 | 626 | 736 | 687 | 719 | 769 | 862 |
| Total, 11 areas | 11,908 | 14,132 | 13,773 | 10,172 | 11,227 | 11,812 | 12,132 | 12,417 | 1/13,511 |
| Oregon | 96 | 121 | 126 | 75 | 86 | 75 | 92 | 101 | 2/110 |
| W. Connecticut | --- | --- | 119 | 79 | 70 | 72 | 124 | 96 | --- |
| Maine | --- | --- | 466 | 537 | 414 | 511 | 544 | 499 | 523 |
| California | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 987 | 1,188 | 1,219 |

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1/ Beginning March 1, includes West Connecticut.
2/ Two weeks only.

Table 11.- Turkeys: Average live weight, sales, farm consumption, and value, available data, 1930 to date

| Year | Average live weight per turkey sold: Hens | Average live weight per turkey sold: Toms | Average live weight per turkey sold: All | Total sold, live weight | Total consumed on farms, where produced, live weight | Total slaughter, live weight | Weighted annual average price received per pound | Value of: Sales | Value of: Sales plus home consumption |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Mil.lb. | Mil.lb. | Mil.lb. | Cents | Mil.dol. | Mil.dol. |
| 1930 | | | 13.4 | | | | | 46 | 51 |
| 1931 | | | 13.6 | | | | | 42 | 46 |
| 1932 | | | 13.8 | | | | | 38 | 41 |
| 1933 | | | 14.0 | | | | | 36 | 38 |
| 1934 | | | 14.1 | | | | | 42 | 45 |
| 1935 | | | 14.5 | | | | | 52 | 56 |
| 1936 | | | 14.7 | | | | | 62 | 65 |
| 1937 | | | 14.8 | | | | | 63 | 67 |
| 1938 | | | 14.9 | | | | | 66 | 69 |
| 1939 | 11.9 | 17.9 | 14.9 | | | | | 71 | 74 |
| 1940 | 12.1 | 18.1 | 15.1 | 509 | 17 | 526 | 15.4 | 78 | 81 |
| 1941 | 12.7 | 19.1 | 15.9 | 496 | 15 | 511 | 19.9 | 98 | 101 |
| 1942 | 13.0 | 19.6 | 16.3 | 527 | 13 | 540 | 27.5 | 145 | 148 |
| 1943 | 12.9 | 19.5 | 16.2 | 490 | 12 | 502 | 32.6 | 165 | 164 |
| 1944 | 13.2 | 20.4 | 16.8 | 585 | 10 | 595 | 34.0 | 199 | 202 |
| 1945 | 13.5 | 21.4 | 17.4 | 715 | 12 | 727 | 33.7 | 241 | 245 |
| 1946 | 13.9 | 22.2 | 18.0 | 740 | 12 | 752 | 36.3 | 269 | 273 |
| 1947 | 13.8 | 22.5 | 18.1 | 634 | 12 | 646 | 36.5 | 232 | 236 |
| 1948 | 14.0 | 22.6 | 18.3 | 549 | 11 | 561 | 46.8 | 257 | 263 |
| 1949 | 14.2 | 23.3 | 18.8 | 748 | 12 | 760 | 35.2 | 263 | 267 |
| 1950 | 14.1 | 23.0 | 18.6 | 797 | 11 | 808 | 32.8 | 262 | 266 |
| 1951 2/ | 13.6 | 22.2 | 17.9 | 911 | 11 | 922 | 37.4 | 341 | 345 |
| 1952 3/ | 14.3 | 23.8 | 1/16.7 | | | | | | |

1/ Including fryers at an average weight of 7.5 pounds which weight was reported for the first time for 1952.
2/ Revised.
3/ Preliminary.

Table 12.- Turkeys: Numbers on farms January 1, numbers raised, sold, consumed on farms where produced, and total slaughter, available data 1930 to date

| Year | Numbers on farms January 1: Breeders | Numbers on farms January 1: Others | Raised | Sold | Consumed on farms where produced | Total slaughter 1/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands |
| 1930 | | | 17,419 | 15,999 | 1,704 | 17,703 |
| 1931 | | | 18,249 | 15,746 | 1,549 | 17,295 |
| 1932 | | | 22,333 | 19,393 | 1,665 | 21,058 |
| 1933 | | | 23,241 | 21,733 | 1,623 | 23,356 |
| 1934 | | | 21,702 | 20,615 | 1,505 | 22,120 |
| 1935 | | | 20,821 | 18,827 | 1,428 | 20,255 |
| 1936 | | | 27,981 | 25,530 | 1,485 | 27,015 |
| 1937 | 3,481 | 2,877 | 25,755 | 24,227 | 1,425 | 25,652 |
| 1938 | 3,222 | 2,874 | 26,887 | 24,861 | 1,291 | 26,152 |
| 1939 | 3,914 | 2,575 | 33,587 | 29,821 | 1,297 | 31,118 |
| 1940 | 4,607 | 3,962 | 34,047 | 33,778 | 1,170 | 34,948 |
| 1941 | 3,864 | 3,329 | 32,902 | 31,209 | 996 | 32,205 |
| 1942 | 4,003 | 3,482 | 32,805 | 32,420 | 824 | 33,244 |
| 1943 | 3,984 | 2,616 | 32,309 | 30,278 | 747 | 31,025 |
| 1944 | 4,294 | 3,135 | 35,616 | 34,749 | 647 | 35,396 |
| 1945 | 4,606 | 2,597 | 42,900 | 40,999 | 691 | 41,690 |
| 1946 | 4,841 | 3,021 | 40,142 | 41,030 | 699 | 41,729 |
| 1947 | 3,779 | 2,100 | 33,975 | 34,938 | 675 | 35,613 |
| 1948 | 2,537 | 1,422 | 31,541 | 30,017 | 666 | 30,683 |
| 1949 | 3,148 | 1,474 | 41,266 | 39,841 | 676 | 40,517 |
| 1950 | 3,270 | 1,854 | 43,792 | 42,918 | 648 | 43,566 |
| 1951 2/ | 3,301 | 1,790 | 52,476 | 50,853 | 644 | 51,497 |
| 1952 3/ | 3,828 | 1,994 | 60,446 | 59,996 | 715 | 60,711 |
| 1953 3/ | 3,446 | 1,893 | | | | |

1/ Slaughter is the sum of sales and consumption on farms where produced. The difference between raised and slaughtered is accounted for by (a) difference in January 1 inventories, and (b) death losses.
2/ Revised.
3/ Preliminary.

### Table 13.- Turkeys: Production, disposition, and related data, by States and divisions, 1952

| State and division | Number on farms, January 1, 1952 | Number raised | Sales | | | | Consumed on farms where produced | | Average price, per pound | Value of | | Number on farms, December 31, 1952 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Average live weight per bird: Immature and light weight turkeys 1/ | Average live weight per bird: All turkeys | Number | Weight | Number | Weight | | Sales | Sales plus home consumption | |
| | Thous. | Thous. | Lb. | Lb. | Thous. | Thous. lb. | Thous. | Thous. lb. | Cents | Thous. dol. | Thous. dol. | Thous. |
| Maine | 18 | 464 | 7.0 | 9.9 | 465 | 4,604 | 1 | 10 | 38.7 | 1,782 | 1,786 | 15 |
| New Hampshire | 14 | 154 | 7.5 | 17.1 | 150 | 2,565 | 2 | 34 | 41.8 | 1,072 | 1,086 | 16 |
| Vermont | 14 | 138 | 7.5 | 18.5 | 136 | 2,516 | 3 | 56 | 42.7 | 1,074 | 1,098 | 13 |
| Massachusetts | 54 | 653 | 8.0 | 14.7 | 642 | 9,437 | 5 | 74 | 43.6 | 4,115 | 4,147 | 59 |
| Rhode Island | 5 | 55 | 8.0 | 16.3 | 54 | 880 | 1 | 16 | 44.7 | 393 | 400 | 5 |
| Connecticut | 31 | 370 | 8.0 | 16.4 | 367 | 6,019 | 4 | 66 | 44.7 | 2,690 | 2,720 | 29 |
| New York | 122 | 943 | 9.0 | 16.9 | 914 | 15,447 | 20 | 338 | 43.6 | 6,735 | 6,882 | 128 |
| New Jersey | 60 | 384 | 8.0 | 15.6 | 365 | 5,694 | 7 | 109 | 45.7 | 2,602 | 6,652 | 70 |
| Pennsylvania | 231 | 2,180 | 8.0 | 14.0 | 2,142 | 29,988 | 37 | 518 | 41.7 | 12,505 | 12,721 | 224 |
| North Atlantic | 549 | 5,341 | 7.9 | 14.7 | 5,235 | 77,150 | 80 | 1,221 | 42.7 | 32,968 | 33,492 | 559 |
| Ohio | 144 | 1,878 | 7.8 | 17.6 | 1,830 | 32,208 | 24 | 422 | 34.6 | 11,144 | 11,290 | 161 |
| Indiana | 50 | 1,795 | 7.5 | 16.0 | 1,782 | 28,512 | 14 | 224 | 35.0 | 9,979 | 10,057 | 46 |
| Illinois | 79 | 999 | 6.9 | 17.0 | 979 | 16,643 | 17 | 289 | 36.8 | 6,125 | 6,231 | 79 |
| Michigan | 120 | 1,097 | 9.6 | 17.7 | 1,066 | 18,868 | 14 | 248 | 35.5 | 6,698 | 6,786 | 132 |
| Wisconsin | 57 | 1,349 | 8.0 | 18.2 | 1,338 | 24,352 | 10 | 182 | 36.5 | 8,888 | 8,954 | 57 |
| East North Central | 450 | 7,118 | 7.7 | 17.2 | 6,995 | 120,583 | 79 | 1,365 | 35.5 | 42,834 | 43,318 | 475 |
| Minnesota | 281 | 5,201 | 7.7 | 17.8 | 5,201 | 92,578 | 22 | 392 | 31.9 | 29,532 | 29,657 | 244 |
| Iowa | 161 | 3,415 | 7.5 | 19.5 | 3,402 | 66,339 | 11 | 214 | 32.5 | 21,560 | 21,630 | 155 |
| Missouri | 319 | 1,572 | 6.8 | 17.8 | 1,592 | 28,338 | 11 | 196 | 33.0 | 9,352 | 9,417 | 274 |
| North Dakota | 34 | 526 | 6.0 | 16.6 | 510 | 8,466 | 15 | 249 | 32.8 | 2,777 | 2,859 | 34 |
| South Dakota | 49 | 370 | --- | 17.2 | 360 | 6,192 | 10 | 172 | 32.3 | 2,000 | 2,056 | 48 |
| Nebraska | 41 | 862 | 7.5 | 18.3 | 858 | 15,701 | 6 | 110 | 33.9 | 5,323 | 5,360 | 37 |
| Kansas | 140 | 742 | 6.0 | 17.0 | 749 | 12,733 | 12 | 204 | 31.5 | 4,011 | 4,075 | 115 |
| West North Central | 1,025 | 12,688 | 7.4 | 18.2 | 12,672 | 230,347 | 87 | 1,537 | 32.4 | 74,555 | 75,054 | 907 |
| Delaware | 15 | 360 | 8.0 | 14.2 | 353 | 5,013 | 3 | 43 | 41.3 | 2,070 | 2,088 | 18 |
| Maryland | 72 | 529 | 7.0 | 15.1 | 518 | 7,822 | 15 | 226 | 42.2 | 3,301 | 3,396 | 65 |
| Virginia | 319 | 5,762 | 7.0 | 10.7 | 5,834 | 62,424 | 25 | 268 | 33.8 | 21,099 | 21,190 | 207 |
| West Virginia | 66 | 1,800 | 8.0 | 13.0 | 1,778 | 23,114 | 8 | 104 | 36.1 | 8,344 | 8,382 | 79 |
| North Carolina | 57 | 1,018 | 7.4 | 16.6 | 999 | 16,583 | 14 | 232 | 36.4 | 6,036 | 6,120 | 60 |
| South Carolina | 103 | 1,252 | 7.9 | 16.8 | 1,248 | 20,966 | 12 | 202 | 36.8 | 7,715 | 7,789 | 90 |
| Georgia | 51 | 620 | 8.0 | 14.8 | 595 | 8,806 | 20 | 296 | 38.1 | 3,355 | 3,468 | 54 |
| Florida | 27 | 181 | 8.4 | 15.9 | 165 | 2,624 | 11 | 175 | 41.6 | 1,092 | 1,165 | 31 |
| South Atlantic | 710 | 11,522 | 7.3 | 12.8 | 11,490 | 147,352 | 108 | 1,546 | 36.0 | 53,012 | 53,598 | 604 |
| Kentucky | 66 | 412 | 8.0 | 17.3 | 409 | 7,076 | 10 | 173 | 34.8 | 2,462 | 2,522 | 56 |
| Tennessee | 25 | 211 | 7.0 | 16.3 | 195 | 3,178 | 14 | 228 | 32.1 | 1,020 | 1,093 | 26 |
| Alabama | 35 | 308 | 9.0 | 14.2 | 286 | 4,061 | 25 | 355 | 38.2 | 1,551 | 1,687 | 30 |
| Mississippi | 31 | 131 | 8.5 | 13.2 | 113 | 1,492 | 23 | 304 | 35.4 | 528 | 636 | 24 |
| Arkansas | 43 | 550 | 7.4 | 15.5 | 532 | 8,246 | 12 | 186 | 32.3 | 2,663 | 2,723 | 47 |
| Louisiana | 21 | 122 | 7.0 | 13.2 | 104 | 1,373 | 17 | 224 | 44.8 | 615 | 715 | 21 |
| Oklahoma | 89 | 690 | 8.0 | 15.8 | 685 | 10,823 | 17 | 269 | 31.0 | 3,355 | 3,438 | 72 |
| Texas | 549 | 3,703 | 8.0 | 17.4 | 3,511 | 61,091 | 100 | 1,740 | 30.6 | 18,694 | 19,226 | 615 |
| South Central | 859 | 6,127 | 8.0 | 16.7 | 5,835 | 97,340 | 218 | 3,479 | 31.7 | 30,888 | 32,040 | 891 |
| Montana | 16 | 140 | 8.8 | 16.3 | 131 | 2,135 | 12 | 196 | 34.7 | 741 | 809 | 13 |
| Idaho | 30 | 183 | 7.0 | 17.3 | 182 | 3,149 | 6 | 104 | 35.4 | 1,115 | 1,152 | 24 |
| Wyoming | 18 | 150 | --- | 16.7 | 148 | 2,472 | 7 | 117 | 33.4 | 826 | 865 | 13 |
| Colorado | 60 | 723 | 6.0 | 17.6 | 721 | 12,690 | 13 | 229 | 35.9 | 4,556 | 4,638 | 48 |
| New Mexico | 12 | 68 | 7.0 | 17.1 | 60 | 1,026 | 8 | 137 | 35.0 | 359 | 407 | 11 |
| Arizona | 17 | 98 | 8.0 | 17.8 | 94 | 1,673 | 8 | 142 | 35.1 | 587 | 637 | 12 |
| Utah | 83 | 1,971 | 8.0 | 19.4 | 1,995 | 38,703 | 9 | 175 | 30.0 | 11,611 | 11,663 | 48 |
| Nevada | 3 | 27 | --- | 20.0 | 25 | 500 | 3 | 60 | 31.4 | 157 | 176 | 2 |
| Washington | 144 | 1,223 | 7.5 | 18.8 | 1,194 | 22,447 | 11 | 207 | 30.5 | 6,846 | 6,909 | 158 |
| Oregon | 352 | 2,134 | 6.8 | 18.6 | 2,171 | 40,381 | 11 | 205 | 29.7 | 11,993 | 12,054 | 289 |
| California | 1,494 | 10,933 | 7.8 | 18.7 | 11,048 | 206,598 | 55 | 1,028 | 31.0 | 64,045 | 64,364 | 1,285 |
| Western | 2,229 | 17,650 | 7.6 | 18.7 | 17,769 | 331,774 | 143 | 2,600 | 31.0 | 102,836 | 103,674 | 1,903 |
| United States | 5,822 | 60,446 | 7.5 | 16.7 | 59,996 | 1,004,546 | 715 | 11,748 | 33.6 | 337,093 | 341,176 | 5,339 |

1/ Including Beltsville Small Whites and other breeds.

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Table 14. - Measures of egg production efficiency by flock size, Indiana, 1950

(Data for cover chart)

| Item | Flock size, layers<br>Under 100 | 100-199 | 200 and over | Average in sample |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| (A) Raw data from source 1/ | | | | |
| Number of flocks in sample | 15 | 46 | 24 | |
| Average number of layers per flock | 60 | 129 | 272 | 157 |
| Average annual production per layer, eggs | 116 | 139 | 165 | 142 |
| Man-hours: | | | | |
| Per layer | 2.93 | 2.38 | 1.51 | 2.21 |
| Per 100 eggs | 2.53 | 1.71 | .92 | 1.56 |
| (B) Conversions of data | | | | |
| (1) Productivity per 100 man-hours | | | | |
| Number of layers tended | 34.1 | 42.0 | 66.2 | 45.2 |
| Number of eggs produced | 3,953 | 5,848 | 10,870 | 6,410 |
| (2) Conversion of data to percentage of average | | | | |
| Annual production, eggs per layers | 82 | 98 | 116 | 100 |
| Number of layers tended per 100 man-hours | 75 | 93 | 146 | 100 |
| Number of eggs produced per 100 man-hours | 62 | 91 | 170 | 100 |

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1/ Hecht, Reuben W., "Labor and Power Used for Farm Enterprises, Indiana, 1950" F. M. 100 BAE, USDA, December 1952, p. 30.